

LUKAS, NACE, GUTIERREZ & SACHS

CHARTERED

1650 TYSONS BOULEVARD

SUITE 1500

McLEAN, VIRGINIA 22102

DAVID A. LaFURIA
ADMITTED IN DC AND PA ONLY
(703) 584-8666

September 2, 2004

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceeding.

On Tuesday, August 31, 2004, undersigned counsel, on behalf of RCC Minnesota, Inc. ("RCC"), U.S. Cellular Corporation, Midwest Wireless Communications, L.L.C. and N.E. Colorado Cellular, Inc., along with Brooks Harlow on behalf of RCC, had a telephonic discussion with Bryan Tramont and Aaron Goldberger of Chairman Powell's office. No materials were distributed at the meeting.

We discussed the pending petitions for service area redefinition filed by RCC Minnesota, Inc. (Maine), the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, the Oregon Public Utility Commission, and the Colorado Public Utilities Commission. We urged the Commission to not open a proceeding in the Oregon and to move quickly to resolve the open proceedings in the other cases in order to bring service to rural consumers in accordance with the designations made by the various states.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,

/s/

David A. LaFuria

cc: Bryan Tramont, Esq.

Aaron Goldberger, Esq.
Brooks Harlow, Esq.